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PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
PX-704

March 3, 1987

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Mr. Richard H. O'Neill
Executive Vice President
New York Shipping Association, Inc.
80 Broad Street
New York, NY 10004

Dear Mr. O'Neill:

The following is in response to Mr. Caruso's request as to whether asbestos was contained in the materials used to fireproof the structural steel members of the 19th and 20th floors of Two World Trade Center.

During the early stages of construction of the North Tower of the World Trade Center, the use of asbestos fireproofing materials was halted and asbestos free materials were substituted except in specific areas such as elevator shafts where, because of the velocity of the elevator cars, it was necessary to continue with the use of asbestos fireproofing since there was no available substitute at that time. In this situation the material was encased in a concrete-like mixture which was self-encapsulating and thereby prevented the escape of asbestos fibers into the air.

Extensive sampling and testing has been performed of the materials used to fireproof the structural steel and decking on the 19th and 20th floors of Two World Trade Center. All sampling of fireproofing material was conducted in accordance with procedures outlined in the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S.E.P.A.) publication, "Guidance for Controlling Asbestos-containing Material in Buildings". The testing of these samples was conducted at the laboratory of the Port Authority Public Safety Department which is a participant in the U.S.E.P.A. Bulk Asbestos Sample Quality Assurance Program.

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The results of the tests, in accordance with applicable guidelines, are as follows:

	Total Samples	Number of Samples Positive for Asbestos Containing Materials	% of Asbestos in Each Positive Sample
19th Floor (40,000 sq ft)	58	3*	1-3%
20th Floor (40,000 sq ft)	92	2**	1-3%

* Initial sampling indicated possible asbestos presence in one location. Supplementary sampling adjacent thereto resulted in two positive readings verifying the asbestos presence only in that location.

** Initial sampling indicated possible asbestos presence in eight locations. Supplementary sampling adjacent to each of such locations resulted in one positive reading verifying asbestos presence only in that location.

Port Authority staff is available to review with you and your representatives the sampling and testing that was employed, the methodology used to analyze the test results, the detailed results of the tests of each sample and the location on the floor from which each sample was obtained.

Sincerely,

Dominick Montalbano
Assistant Deputy Director
for Physical Facilities
The World Trade Center

cc: Donato Caruso, Esq.
Lambos, Flynn, Nyland & Giardino

bcc: S. Barbuto, F. Boyce, T. Donovan, H. Henschel, R. Linn, S. Samperi, R. VanderVliet